

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 27, 2005. Claims 52 to 63 are pending in the application, of which Claims 52, 56 and 60 are independent.

Claims 52 to 54, 56 to 58 and 60 to 62 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 5,659,718 (Osman). Claims 55, 59 and 63 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Osman. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 52 is directed to a data transmission method used between a data supply device and a target device. The method includes the steps of: locking the target device such that the target device does not receive communication control from another device; transmitting capability information of the target device to the data supply device from the target device after the target device is locked; and transmitting data to the locked target device from the data supply device based on the capability information.

In contrast, Osman discloses that a transmitting device determines buffer availability of a receiving device, and locks out other devices from writing to the buffer of the receiving device. (See column 4, lines 43 to 48 of Osman.) Therefore, the transmitting device of Osman obtains the buffer availability before the buffer is locked. This means that there is the possibility that the buffer is locked by another device in a period between the obtaining of buffer availability by the transmitting device and the locking of the buffer by the transmitting device.

However, in the data transmission method of Claim 1, the target device is locked such that the target device does not receive communication control from another device and

capability information of the target device is transmitted to the data supply device from the target device after the target device is locked. This prevents the possibility that the buffer is locked by another device in a period between the obtaining of buffer availability by the transmitting device and the locking of the buffer by the transmitting device as in Osman.

In light of the deficiencies of Osman, namely that Osman fails to disclose or suggest transmitting capability information of the target device to the data supply device from the target device after the target device is locked, Applicants submit that independent Claim 52 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

Independent Claims 56 and 60 are directed to an apparatus and a method, respectively, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 52. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 56 and 60 are also now in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

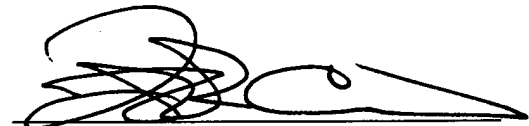
The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the allowability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

On another matter, "Anonymous: 'Hardware control of isochronous data transfer between P1394 and PCI Buses'", one of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement dated May 27, 2004, was not initialed by the Examiner on the returned PTO-1449 Form, though the other references were initialed. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider this reference and return a copy of the initialed PTO-1449 Form.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank L. Cire', written over a horizontal line.

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